

# **PHS Knowledge Services Gambling Harms Bulletin – April 2026**

**New evidence and outputs from key organisations  
relating to gambling harms**



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## About this bulletin

This current awareness bulletin contains a selection of material gathered from a search of the evidence base. It is not intended to be comprehensive and has not been critically appraised. Collated by a qualified information professional, the content is selected by informed prioritisation of the search results based upon agreed criteria.

The bulletin is not a substitute for clinical or professional judgement and the information contained within does not supersede national and local NHS policies and protocols.

Journal articles were sourced from MEDLINE, Embase and APA PsycInfo, all on the Ovid platform. Grey literature was sourced from Idox Knowledge Exchange, Policy Commons and a range of relevant websites. For details of resources used and associated search strategies, please contact us using the details below.

## Contact

If you need assistance in obtaining the full text of any of the articles, or have any other queries, please contact [phs.knowledge@phs.scot](mailto:phs.knowledge@phs.scot).

## Recent journal articles

### Highlights

Lloret-Irles D, Cabrera-Perona V. **Efficacy of the School Gambling Prevention Program “What’s at stake?”: A Cluster Randomized Controlled Trial**. Journal of Gambling Studies. 2026.

Monreal-Bartolomé A, Cabrera-Gil I, Royuela-Colomer E, Mateo-Canedo C, Beltrán-Ruiz M, Pérez-Aranda A, et al. **Gambling in women: A systematic review of interventions and prevention approaches**. Journal of behavioral addictions. 2026;15(1)135–56.

Tannous A, Demetrovics Z, Chhabra B, Logemann A, Czakó A, Griffiths MD, et al. **Mindfulness-based interventions for gambling disorder: A systematic review.** *Journal of behavioral addictions*. 2026;15(1)115–34.

## **Gambling technology**

Auer M, Griffiths MD. **Differences in online gambling expenditure between players from Germany, Spain, Netherlands, Great Britain, US and Canada: A largescale online player tracking study.** *Acta Psychologica*. 2026;266106864.

Farrell H, Bennett D, Myles D. **More frequent use of live sports-betting features is associated with increased risk of gambling harm: Evidence from a case-control design.** *Journal of Behavioral addictions*. 2026;15(1)509–14.

Kang W, Chui RC-F, Siu NY-F, Lee JY-S, Lau W-Y, Chan C-K. **Gambling in Online Gaming among Youth in Hong Kong: Does Internet Gaming Disorder (IGD) and Online Gambling Tendency Play a Role?** *Journal of Gambling Studies*. 2026.

Lockwood M, Santos T, Chandrakumar D, Gainsbury SM. **Understanding consumer perceptions and sub-group differences in intent to use account-based ('cashless') gambling payment systems.** *International Gambling Studies*. 2026;26(1)1–17.

McGarrigle J, Smith J, Griffiths J, Torrance J, Quigley M, Dymond S. **Dark patterns in online gambling: A scoping review and classification of deceptive design practices.** *Journal of Behavioral addictions*. 2026;15(1)99–114.

Wiederhold BK. **Online gambling, young men, and a growing public health concern. Cyberpsychology, behavior and social networking.** 2026;21522715261446730.

## **Marketing and promotion**

Kovařík F, Fiedor D, Sharman S. **This is “offside”: Gambling advertising during Czech football broadcasts.** *Journal of behavioral addictions*. 2026;15(1)419–28.

Louis C, Ross JC, Motta M. **Sports betting ads are everywhere. that could be a public health problem.** Journal of Gambling Studies. 2026.

Petrovskaya E, Xiao LY, Khoo N, Leahy D, Roberts A. **Gambling adverts on social media reach 2.3 times more men than women: Using the Meta Ad library to assess gambling advertising in Ireland.** Journal of Behavioral addictions. 2026.

Xiao LY, Deery C. **A significant minority of Dutch gambling adverts on social media illegally targeted and likely reached under-24s: Assessing compliance using Meta’s advertising repository mandated by the EU Digital Services Act.** Journal of Behavioral addictions. 2026.

## **Neuroscience**

Inagaki T, Kyuragi Y, Katsuragi K, Ebina K, Ishikawa Y, Mutsuda Y, et al. **Negative correlation between habenular volume and duration of gambling disorder: Modulation by symptom severity and personality traits.** Journal of Behavioral addictions. 2026;15(1)384–94.

Zheng Y, Jiang H, Yang Z. **When effort fuels risk: Cognitive exertion increases risk-taking for gains but reduces it for losses.** Cognitive, Affective & Behavioral Neuroscience. 2026;26(2)469–83.

## **Prevention and intervention**

Barone C, Paleologo M, Moretti G, Sesini G, Cesti B, Attisani V, et al. **Detecting Gambling Addiction: How Text Mining of Customer-Operator Online Chats Reveals Behavioral Risks.** Journal of Gambling Studies. 2026.

Fleury M-J, Cao Z, Grenier G, Ferland F, Banchette-Martin N. **Profiles of service use among patients with gambling disorders.** Journal of Behavioral Addictions. 2026;15(1)395–406.

Fleury M-J, Tatar O, Grenier G, Sharker S, Ferland F, Banchette-Martin N. **Factors Associated with the Frequency of Treatment Admissions Over A 13-year Period Among Patients with Gambling Disorder**. Journal of Gambling Studies. 2026.

Getty C-A, McQuarrie T, Brobbin E. **Contingency management interventions for substance use and addictive behaviours: Review of the United Kingdom evidence base**. Addiction. 2026;121(4)729–46.

Kontto J, Grönroos T, Palomäki J, Hodgins DC, Young MM, Salonen AH. **Deriving lower-risk gambling limits from data collected in four cross-sectional Finnish surveys**. Journal of behavioral addictions. 2026;15(1)407–18.

Spritzer DT, Fortim I, Roza TH, Kessler FHP, Kim HS. **Banning loot boxes for minors: A public health framework and the case of Brazil**. Journal of Behavioral Addictions. 2026;15(1)5–7.

## **Psychology and mental health**

Aonso-Diego G, Iglesias-Faba AM, Estévez A. **Gambling-Related Cognitive Distortions Among Adolescents: A Gender-Based Analysis**. Journal of Gambling Studies. 2026.

Challet-Bouju G, Brault V, Perrot B, Jeu-Group, Desmée S, Grall-Bronnec M. **A clustering based on the dynamics of DSM-5 criteria for gambling disorder: A 5-year follow-up of gamblers with and without gambling disorder**. Journal of Behavioral Addictions. 2026;15(1)357–70.

Edson TC, Tom MA, LaPlante DA. **Investigating the impact of loss accumulation periods on the predictive relationship between loss chasing and potential gambling harms**. Addictive Behaviors. 2026;175108605.

Estévez A, Llanos M, Aonso-Diego G. **Gambling behavior among adolescent and young recreational athletes: the role of gender, gambling modality, and sport characteristics**. Psychology, health & medicine. 2026;1–17.

Hawker CO, Dias SE, Merkouris SS, Rodda SN, Kang H, Ouaziz-Bouabdillah L, et al. **Exploring real-time associations between momentary distress tolerance, emotion regulation, and gambling behavior in Australian adults: An Ecological Momentary Assessment Study.** Psychology of Addictive Behaviors. 2026.

Marionneau V, Havuaho S, Wall H. **Gender-specific risk factors for gambling-related suicidal ideation: Evidence from a help-seeking population.** Addictive Behaviors. 2026;175108616.

Nagy N, Czakó A, Demetrovics Z, Horváth Z. **Gambling refusal self-efficacy and protective behavioral strategies mediate and moderate the relationships between impulsivity and gambling outcomes.** Scientific Reports. 2026.

Rabinovitz S, Nagar M. **When rejection backfires: Social exclusion and economic decision-making in gamblers.** Journal of Behavioral Addictions. 2026;15(1)515–23.

Virdis C, Sivasankar S, Flack M, Caudwell KM. **The role of acculturative stress, emotion dysregulation, and escape motivation in problem gambling among immigrants in Australia.** Journal of Gambling Studies. 2026.

Wei H, Zhong G, Liu J, Wei Y, Zhang X, Yang P, et al. **Diminishing loss sensitivity during risky decision-making among male individuals with gambling disorder.** Journal of Behavioral Addictions. 2026;15(1)371–83.

Wirkus T, Czernecka R, Bühringer G, Kräplin A. **The relationship between executive functions, decision-making, and changes in symptoms of gambling disorder in online sports bettors.** Scientific Reports. 2026;16(1).

## **Miscellaneous**

Allami Y, Gooding NB, Williams RJ, Delfabbro P, Parke J, Volberg R, et al. **Conditional administration of items in the Gambling Harms Measure: Psychometric justification and implications for efficiency.** Psychology of Addictive Behaviors. 2026.

Arminen I, Simonen M, Rydman R. **The lines of argumentation of alcohol, drug and gambling policies in Finland.** Nordisk alkohol- & narkotikatidskrift : NAT. 2026;43(2)147–64.

Barthels F, Hanewinkel R, Morgenstern M. **Effects of Anti-Stigma Messages on Public Stigmatisation of Gambling Disorder: a Randomised Online Experiment.** Journal of Gambling Studies. 2026.

Castrén S, Palomäki J, Egerer M, Grönroos T, Hodgins DC, Young MM. **Cultural adaptation of the lower-risk gambling guidelines: Reflections from the Finnish experience.** Journal of Behavioral Addictions. 2026;15(1)1–4.

Li Z, Chen M, Liu L. **Frontline Employees and Responsible Gambling: How Internal Communication Shapes Compliance with RG Rules.** Journal of Gambling Studies. 2026.

Ó Ceallaigh D, Timmons S, Robertson DA, Lunn PD. **Childhood gambling experiences and adult problem gambling.** International Gambling Studies. 2026;26(1)91–108.

Saabye C. **Identifying subtypes of potentially problematic gambling.** Journal of Gambling Studies. 2026.

Stafford MR, Mallina R, Zarb-Cousin M, Martz K, Minnick R. **Lived experiences of recovering and recovered gamblers: a sentiment and thematic analysis.** Journal of Gambling Studies. 2026.

Tulloch C, Browne M, Russell AMT, Rockloff M. **Synthesising the available evidence to identify the health impact of gambling harm and gambling problems.** Addictive Behaviors. 2026;175108612.

## **Recent reports and news (grey literature)**

No relevant reports